

REMARKS

This application contains claims 1, 4-16, 26, 29-41, 56 and 59-71. Claims 1, 4-13, 26, 29-38, 56 and 59-68 are allowed. Claims 14-16, 39-41 and 69-71 have been canceled without prejudice. No new matter has been introduced. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 15, 16, 40, 41, 70 and 71 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Smyk et al. (U.S. Patent 6,597,686) in view of Gaus (U.S. Patent 6,778,652), and further in view of Klein (U.S. Patent 6,999,448), while claims 14, 39 and 69 were rejected over these three references and further in view of Hetz (U.S. Patent 6,185,289). While disagreeing with the grounds of rejection, Applicants have canceled the rejected claims in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the allowed claims.

Applicants believe the amendments and remarks presented hereinabove to be fully responsive to all of the objections and grounds of rejection raised by the Examiner. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims in the present application are in order for allowance. Notice to this effect is hereby requested.

Appln. No. 10/053,872
Amdt. dated March 19, 2008
Reply to Office Action of Jan. 7, 2008


The prior art documents made of record and not relied upon have been noted along with the implication that such documents are deemed by the PTO to be insufficiently pertinent to warrant their applications against any of applicant's claims.

Favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By


Norman J. Latker
Registration No. 19,963

NJL:ma
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528
G:\BN\C\colb\kallner1\pto\2008-03-19-Amendment.doc